Representation from A.I.D. Employees Union, Calcutta

*214. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any representation from the A.I.D. Employees Union, Calcutta, forwarded by the leader of the C.P.I.(M) Group in Parliament, regarding the question of payment of gratuity to the employees of the three companies represented by the said Unions; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 at present provides for payment of gratuity only for the period during which an employee has been drawing wages within the specified wage limit, i.e. Rs. 1600|- per month. The employees drawing wages exceeding Rs. 1600|- per month are not, therefore, legally entitled to gratuity for the period of service after their wages exceed Rs. 1600|- per month. There can, therefore, be no question of payment of gratuity for the entire period of service in such cases.

Collapse of Power System in Delhi and four Northern States

*215. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a major disturbance in the Northern power grid on the night of 19th July, 1984;

(b) if so, whether due to this disturbance there was a total collapse of the power system in the Capital and in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Indraprastha and Badarpur power plants had to be shut down;

(d) if so, what were the causes of the disturbance in the Northern Grid;

(e) whether any sabotage is suspected behind this disturbance; and

(f) what measures have been taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (f) There was a major system disturbance on 19-7-1984 in the Northern Grid. The disturbance caused total power failure in Delhi and in parts of Haryana, Rajasthan, Western U.P. and Punjab. As a result of the system disturbance all the running units at Badarpur and IP Stations had tripped. Power supply was restored by synchronising the first units of IP and Badarpur stations by availing start-up supply from Bhakra and U.P. respectively.

A number of technical issues have to be sorted out before any conclusion can be reached regarding the circumstances under which the power failure occurred. Government have, therefore, appointed on the 20th July, 1984, a high level Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri A. N. Singh, Chairman, Central Electricity Authority to investigate and identify the causes of the system disturbance and to suggest remedial measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents. The circumstances in which the power failure occurred on 19th July, 1984, do not *prima facie* indicate sabotage.

Special allowance to AIR/TV staff posted in North Eastern States

*216. SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gazetted staff of All India Radio and Delhi Doordar-

shan are paid any special allowance when posted in North Eastern States;

(b) if so, what is the special allowance paid to them for working in that area;

(c) whether this benefit is also extended to non-gazetted staff; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below)

(d) Does not arise .

Statement

Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) has issued instructions on 14th December, 1983 regarding the grant of additional allowances and facilities to all civilian Central Government employees serving in the States/Union Territories in the North Eastern region. Copies of these instructions as amplified by subsequent instructions issued on 29-3-1984 and 29-6-1984 are annexed. (*See* below)

2. These orders also apply to the employees of All India Radio and Doordarshan, being Central Government employees. No distinction has been made in these orders between the Gazetted and Non-gazetted employees.

Copy of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure's) O.M. No. 20014/3/83-E. IV, dated the 14th December, 1983.

SUBJECT:—Allowances and facilities for civilian employees of the Central Government serving in the State and Union Territories of North Eastern Region—improvements thereof.

The need for attracting and retaining the services of competent officers for service in the North-Eastern Region comprising the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura and the Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram has been engaging the attention of the Government for some time. The Government had appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms, to review the existing allowances and facilities admissible to the various categories of civilan Central Government employees servng in this region and to suggest suitable improvements. The recommendations of the Committee have been carefully considered by the Government and the President is now pleased to decide as follows:—

(i) *Tenure of posting|deputation*:

There will be a fixed tenure of posting of 3 years at a time for officers with service of 10 years or less and of 2 years at a time for officers with more than 10 years of service. Periods of leave, training, etc. in excess of 15 days per year will be excluded in counting the tenure period of 2|3 years. Officers, on completion of the fixed tenure of service mentioned above, may be considered for posting to a station of their choice as far as possible.

The period of deputation of the Central Government employees to the States|Union Territories of the North Eastern Region will generally be for 3 years which can be extended in exceptional cases in exigencies of public service as well as when the employee concerned is prepared to stay longer. The admissible deputation allowance will also continue to

be paid during the period of deputation so extended.

(ii) Weightage for Central deputation|training abroad and special mention in Confidential Records.

Satisfactory performance of duties for the prescribed tenure in the North East shall be given due recognition in the case of eligible officers in the matter of—

(a) Promotion in cadre posts;

(b) deputation to Central tenure posts; and

(c) courses of training abroad.

The general requirement of at least three years service in a cadre post between two Central tenure deputations may also be relaxed to two years in deserving cases of meritorious service in the North East.

A specific entry shall be made in the C.R. of all employees who rendered a full tenure of service in the North Eastern Region to that effect.

(iii) *Special (Duty) Allowances*

Central Government civilian employees who have All-India transfer liability will be granted a Special (Duty) Allowance at the rate of 25 per cent of basic pay subject to a ceiling of Rs. 400/- per month on posting to any station in the North Eastern Region. Such of those employees who are exempt from payment of income tax will, however, not be eligible for this Special (Duty) Allowance. Special (Duty) Allowance will be in addition to any special pay and|or Deputation (Duty) Allowance already being drawn subject to the condition that the total of such Special (Duty) Allowance plus special pay|Deputation (Duty) Allowance will not exceed Rs. 400/- p.m. Special Allowances like Special Compensatory (Remote Locality) Allowance, Construction Allowance and Project Allowance will be drawn separately.

(iv) *Special Compensatory Allowance*:

1. *Assam and Meghalaya*

The rate of the allowance will be 5 per cent of basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 50|- p.m. admissible to all employees without any pay limit. The above allowance will be admissible with effect from 1-7-1982 in the case of Assam.

2. *Manipur*

The rate of allowance will be as follows for the whole of Manipur:—

Pay upto Rs. 260|- Rs. 40/- p.m.

Pay above Rs. 260/- 15 per cent of basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

3. *Tripura*

The rates of the allowance will be as follows:—

(a) *Difficult Areas*: 25 per cent of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 50/- and a maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

(b) *Other Areas*: Pay upto Rs. 260|- Rs. 40/- p.m.

Pay above Rs. 260/- 15 per cent of basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

There will be no change in the existing rates of Special Compensatory Allowances admissible in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Mizoram and the existing rate of Disturbance Allowance admissible in specified areas of Mizoram.

(v) *Travelling Allowance on first appointment.*

In relaxation of the present rules (S.R. 105) that travelling allowance is not admissible for journeys undertaken in connection with initial appointment in case of journeys for taking up initial appointment to a post in the North-Eastern region,

travelling allowance limited to ordinary bus fare/second class rail fare for road/rail journey in excess of first 400 kms. for the Government servant himself and his family will be admissible.

(vi) *Travelling Allowance for journey on transfer*:

In relaxation of orders below S.R. 116, if on transfer to a station in the North-Eastern region, the family of the Government servant does not accompany him, the Government servant will be paid travelling allowance on tour for self only for transit period to join the post and will be permitted to carry personal effects upto 1/3rd of his entitlement at Government cost or have a cash equivalent of carrying 1/3rd of his entitlement or the difference in weight of the personal effects he is actually carrying and 1/3rd of his entitlement as the case may be in lieu of the cost of transportation of baggage. In case the family accompenies the Government servant on transfer, the Government servant will be entitled to the existing admissible travelling allowance including the cost of transportation of the admissible weight of personal effects according to the grade to which the officer belongs, irrespective of the weight of the baggage actually carried. The above provisions will also apply for the return journey on transfer back from the North Eastern Region.

(*vii*) *Road mileage for tradnsportation of personal effects on transfer*:

In relaxation of orders below S.R. 116, for transportation of personal effects on transfer between two different stations in the North-Eastern region, higher rate of allowance admissible for transportation in 'A' class cities subject to the actual expenditure incurred by the Government servant will be admissible.

(viii) *Joining Time with leave*:

In case of Government servants proceeding on leave from a place of posting in North-Eastern region, the period of travel in excess of two days from the station of posting to outside that region will be treated as joining time. The same concession will be admissible on return from leave.

(ix) *Leave Travel Concession*:

A Government servant who leaves his family behind at the old duty station or another selected place of residence and has not availed of the transfer travelling allowance for the family will have the option to avail of the existing leave travel concession of journey to home town once in a block period of 2 years, or in lieu thereof, facility of travel for himself once a year from the station of posting in the North East to his home town or place where the family is residing and in addition the facility for the family (restricted to his/her spouse and two dependent children only) also to travel once a year to visit the employee at the station of posting in the North Eastern Region. In case the option is for the latter alternative, the cost of travel for the initial distance (400 kms./160 kms.) will not be borne by officer.

Officers drawing pay of Rs. 2250 or above, and their families, i.e., spouse and two dependent children (upto 18 years for boys and 24 years for girls) will be allowed air-travel between Imphal/Silchar/Agartala and Calcutta and vice-versa, while performing journeys mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

(x) *Children Education Allowance/ Hostel Subsidy*:

Where the children do not accompany the Government servant to the North-Eastern Region, Children Education Allowance upto class XII will be admissible in respect of children studying at the last station of posting of the employees concerned or any

other station where the children reside, without any restriction of pay drawn by the Government servant, if children studying in schools are put in hostels at the last station of posting or any other station, the Government servant concerned will be given hostel subsidy without other restrictions.

2. The above orders except in sub-para (iv) will also *mutatis mutandis* apply to Central Government employees posted to Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

3. These orders will take effect from 1st November, 1983 and will remain in force for a period of three years upto 31st October, 1986.

4. All existing special allowances, facilities and concessions extended by any special order by the Ministires/Departments of the Central Government to their own employees in the North Eastern Region will be withdrawn from the date of effect of the orders contained in this office Memorandum.

5. Separate orders will be issued in respect of other recommendations of the Committee referred to in paragraph 1 as and when decisions are taken on them by the Government.

6. In so far as the persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned, these orders issue after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Copy of Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Expenditure) O.M. No. 11016|1|E. II (B)/84, dated 29-3-1984.

SUBJECT:—Allowances and facilities for civilian employees of the Central Government serving in the States and Union Territories of North-Eastern Region — improvements thereof.

The undersigned is directed to refer to para 5 of this Ministry's O.M. No. 20014/3/83-E. IV dated 14-12-1983, on the subject noted above, and to state that the question of payment of House Rent Allowance to Central Government Civilian employees who are posted in the State of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, and Tripura and the Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Andaman & Nicobar Islands has been considered and the President is pleased to decide as follows:—

(a) Central Government employees who were in occupation of hired private accommodation at the last station of posting before transfer to any of the States/Union Territories mentioned above may be allowed to draw House Rent Allowance admissible to them at that station.

(b) Such Central Government Civilian employees may also be allowed to draw, in addition to (a) above, House Rent Allowance at the rates admissible at the new place of posting in the aforesaid States/Union Territories in case they live in hired private accommodation.

(c) The benefits mentioned in (a) and (b) above will also be admissible to Central Government employees who get transferred from one station of a State/Union Territory of the North Eastern Region to another State/Union Territory of the North-Eastern Region mentioned above.

2. These orders will take effect from 1st November, 1983 and will remain in force for a period of three years upto 31st October, 1986.

3. In so far as the persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned these orders issue after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Copy of Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Expenditure O.M. No. 20014/3/83-E, IV, dated New Delhi 29th June, 1984.

SUBJECT:—Allowances and facilities for civilian employees of the Central Government Serving in the States and Union Territories of North-Eastern Region — Improvement thereof.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's O.M. of even number dated 14th December, 1983 on the above subject and to state that the rates of Special Compensatory Allowance for Manipur and 'Other Areas' of Tripura in para 1 (iv) of the O.M. may be substituted as follows:—

Mani Pur	
Pay up to Rs. 260/-	Rs. 40/- p.m.
Pay above Rs. 260/-	15% of basic pay subject to minimum of Rs. 40/- p.m. and maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.
Tripura Other Areas	
Pay up to Rs. 260/-	Rs. 40/- p.m.
Pay above Rs. 260/-	15% of abasic pay subject to minimum of Rs. 40/-p.m. and maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

2. These orders take effect from 1-11-1983.

3. In so far as persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned, these orders issue after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rise in production and demand of crude oil

*217. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent crude oil requirement in the country is anticipated to rise by the next five years;

(b) to what extent the domestic production of crude oil is likely to rise to meet the demand by that time;

(c) what is the estimated quantity (with value) of crude oil likely to be imported during the current year and during the next five years to meet the increasing demand; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to maximise the crude oil from the known oilfields and to intensify search for the new oil fields besides recuperation of the sick wells?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) Projections regarding the requirements of crude oil, its indigenous availability and the imports during the next five years would be available after the finalisation of the Seventh Five Year Plan. The net import of crude oil during the current financial year 1984-85 is estimated at 6.587 million tonnes valued at approximately Rs. 1511 crores.

(d) Some of the steps proposed are:

(i) enhanced oil recovery techniques,

(ii) intensifying work-over operations,

(iii) intensifying exploration in less precisely known geological regions; and

(iv) induction of advanced technology.

Extension of E.S.I. Scheme benefits to the unemployed textile workers of Gujarat

*218. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has submit-